

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims

Claim 1. (currently amended) A slide ring seal assembly comprising:

(a) a slide ring having an axially extending annular leg, said slide ring having an L-shaped cross-section, and said leg having radially outer and radially inner circumferential surfaces and a free axial end ~~with an end face surface~~ surface;

(b) a plurality of circumferentially spaced recesses provided in said leg at and extending axially inward from said free axial end thereof surface, each said recess extending from said radially outer circumferential surface to said radially inner circumferential surface, each said recess having an axial end face and side walls, and with at least one of said recesses continuing with an axially extending undercut provided in said leg;

(c) an annular sealing body surrounding said leg and being seated thereon, ~~the annular sealing body contacting the end face of the free axial end of the leg~~; and

(d) a plurality of circumferentially spaced, radially inward-oriented extensions forming part of said annular sealing body and projecting into respective said recesses provided in said leg for effecting a form-locking connection between said slide ring and said annular sealing body, with at least one of said radially inward-oriented extensions continuing with an axial projection received by said undercut,

wherein at least one of the inward-oriented extensions contacts the axial end face and at least one of the side walls of the respective recess.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) The slide ring seal assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said leg has, ~~at said free axial end,~~ a circumferentially extending enlargement on said radially outer circumferential surface, ~~a circumferentially extending enlargement.~~

Claim 4. (currently amended) The slide ring seal assembly according to claim 1, wherein said ~~seal~~ slide ring is generally L-shaped and has a radially extending slide sealing surface.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The slide ring seal assembly according to claim 4, including a pair of said ~~sealing~~ slide rings having their respective slide sealing surfaces in contact, and a respective said annular sealing body for each of said ~~sealing~~ slide rings.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The slide ring assembly according to claim 1, wherein said ~~sealing~~ slide ring is formed of metal and said annular sealing body is formed of a resilient material.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The slide ring assembly according to claim 6, wherein said annular sealing body has a generally trapezoidal cross-section.

Claim 8. (previously presented) The slide ring assembly according to claim 1, wherein the annular sealing body is seated on the leg under radial pressure.

Claim 9. (currently amended) A slide ring seal assembly comprising:

(a) a slide ring having an axially extending annular leg, said slide ring having an L-shaped cross-section, and said leg having radially outer and radially inner circumferential surfaces and a free axial end ~~with an end face~~ surface;

(b) a plurality of circumferentially spaced recesses provided in said leg at and extending axially inward from said free axial end ~~thereof~~ surface, each said recess extending from said radially outer circumferential surface to said radially inner circumferential surface, each said recess having an axial end face and side walls, and with at least one of said recesses continuing with an axially extending undercut provided in said leg;

(c) an annular sealing body surrounding said leg and being seated thereon; ~~the annular sealing body contacting the end face of the free axial end of the leg;~~ and

(d) a plurality of circumferentially spaced, radially inward-oriented extensions forming part of said annular sealing body and projecting into respective said recesses provided in said leg for effecting a form-locking connection between said slide ring and said annular sealing body, with at least one of said radially inward-oriented extensions continuing with an axial projection received by said undercut,

wherein at least one of the inward-oriented extensions contacts at least one of the side walls of the respective recess.

Claim 10. (currently amended) A slide ring seal assembly comprising:

(a) a slide ring having an axially extending annular leg, said slide ring having an L-shaped cross-section, and said leg having radially outer and radially inner circumferential surfaces and a free axial end ~~with an end face~~ surface;

(b) a plurality of circumferentially spaced recesses provided in said leg at and extending axially inward from said free axial end ~~thereof~~ surface, each said recess extending from said radially outer circumferential surface to said radially inner circumferential surface, each said recess having an axial end face and side walls, and with at least one of said recesses continuing with an axially extending undercut provided in said leg;

(c) an annular sealing body surrounding said leg and being seated thereon, ~~the annular sealing body contacting the end face of the free axial end of the leg;~~ and

(d) a plurality of circumferentially spaced, radially inward-oriented extensions forming part of said annular sealing body and projecting into respective said recesses provided in said leg for effecting a form-locking connection between said slide ring and said annular sealing body, with at least one of said radially inward-oriented extensions continuing with an axial projection received by said undercut,

wherein at least one of the inward-oriented extensions contacts the axial end face of the respective recess.

Claim 11. (previously presented) The slide ring assembly according to claim 1, wherein the annular sealing body is removably in contact with the leg such that the annular sealing body can be moved out of contact with the leg without damaging the annular sealing body.

Claim 12. (previously presented) The slide ring assembly according to claim 9, wherein the annular sealing body is removably in contact with the leg such that the annular sealing body can be moved out of contact with the leg without damaging the annular sealing body.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The slide ring assembly according to claim 10, wherein the annular sealing body is removably in contact with the leg such that the annular sealing body can be moved out of contact with the leg without damaging the annular sealing body.